



GCCNews

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GCC goes downtown

Bank building purchase re-establishes a presence on Greenfield's main street

The Greenfield Community College Foundation offices were moved into their new headquarters at 270 Main Street in downtown Greenfield during the first week of April. The Foundation will celebrate by hosting several receptions throughout the spring for its members, college staff, faculty and friends in the community.

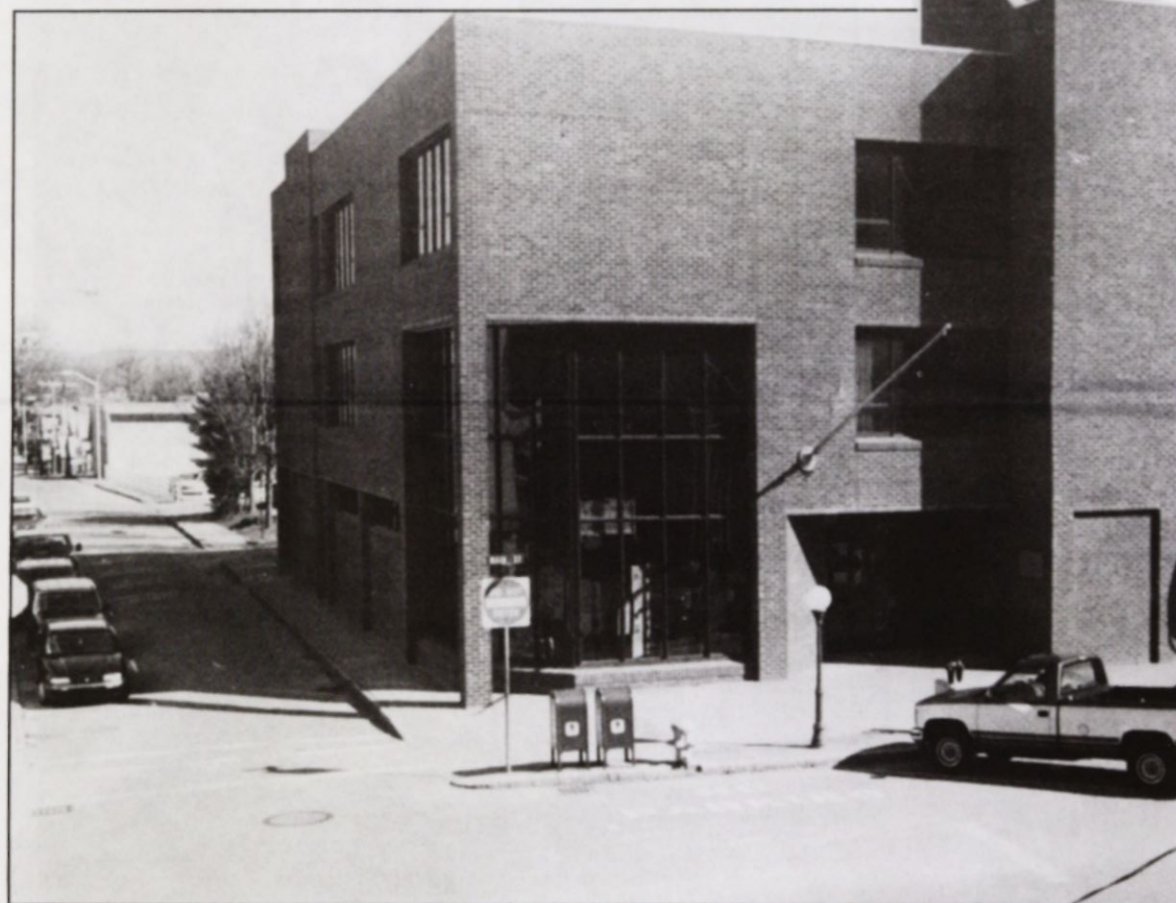
Celebration is in order because, by acquiring the three-story red brick structure on the corner of Main and Davis, the Foundation finally has its own "home" after 25 years of borrowing office space here and there.

According to current President Robert S. Cohn, the Foundation—GCC's private citizen-based fundraising arm—was started in 1968 specifically to support the fledgling community college and was responsible for purchasing several of the buildings which housed the early GCC campuses.

Foundation Executive Director Charles Carter says that the Foundation was the first public community college foundation ever created in Massachusetts. It provided a means to allow Franklin County residents to support "their new school" in ways that the state could or would not. While the idea of private citizens caring enough to support a state school seemed novel at the time, before a decade had passed, "virtually every state college, both community and four-year institutions, had foundations modeled after the one started here," he said.

Back in 1968, the Foundation was responsible for purchasing and renovating the old Threadwell Plant on Arch Street to house the college. It also bought the "South Building" (later the Federal Street South School) to house the nursing program until the present campus was built in 1974.

The GCC Foundation, some 400



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members strong, governed by a 13-person board of directors, has spent the past 20 years directing the bulk of its energies into soliciting and managing funds to support the college with equipment and student aid.

The Foundation supplied funds to renovate the Katherine Sloan Theater, purchased a fleet of vehicles for the college, sponsored the Pioneer Valley Institute and the Archibald Macleish Foundation and provided training money for staff development. In addition, the Foundation provides \$20,000 in student scholarships each year.

The support of the Foundation has

become even more critical over the past decade because, while GCC remains a "state" college in name, it currently received only 38 percent of its operating funds from the state. The rest is contingent on private sources of revenue including fees, Foundation gifts and grants.

While the Foundation directors recognized that staff development and equipment were becoming an ever-present need, enrollment statistics compiled in 1993 also gave them cause to start perusing the real estate ads again. When the campus was first built, its projected "full capacity" was 2,000—but by 1993, the total number of students exceeded 3,000.

In the past four years alone, day student enrollment has increased 24 percent. Based on enrollment projections from local elementary and secondary schools, the college can expect continued growth for at least another decade.

With these numbers in mind, the Foundation knew that GCC was desperately in need of more space. It also knew that the state was not in a position to provide it anytime soon. The college has prepared six capital plans for state approval over the past 20 years, but due to fiscal woes, none has come to fruition.

When the Heritage-NIS Bank building went on the auction block last fall, the Foundation was "waiting in line-with the only bid." The building was purchased for \$577,000—a fraction of its \$1.2 million asking price.

The capital fund drive, expected to begin in mid-May, is projected to raise enough to immediately retire the mortgage and generate an additional \$450,000 for renovations and equipment (*see related story, page 8*).

According to Carter, if all goes as planned, the first floor will house the Foundation and college development offices plus a community meeting room that can accommodate up to 120 people or be partitioned into three, 40-seat areas. The rooms will be offered to any community group wishing to use them, free of charge, on a space-available basis.

The upper floors will be offered, by lease, to the state to house the nursing program and several general purpose classrooms. The General Educational Development (GED) Regional Testing Center and a computer lab will be located in the basement. Several program offices will be scattered around the building. A student lounge is also planned.

All in all, this will create 23,000 gross square feet of new space and also free up 6,000 square feet on the main College Drive campus.

When fully occupied, the new facility may hold up to 600 students, faculty, staff and community residents each day. Since no food service is planned, downtown restaurants may expect an increase in business. Downtown merchants should see an influx of new customers as well, particularly at lunch time.

According to town officials in Lowell, the arrival of Middlesex Community College's campus in their downtown two years ago created an immediate and much-welcomed boost in downtown activity. Alan Manoian, executive director of the Downtown Lowell Business Association, says merchants expressed concern at first. They felt that the take-over of

a downtown building—the abandoned Wang Training Center—would simply result in a loss of property taxes to a city that couldn't afford it.

"They also complained that they didn't expect any increase in sales, saying that community college students weren't the kind of people who had money to spend," he said. "That turned out to be patently untrue." Not only did the students have money—"500 new people just buying lunch downtown adds up to a major increase in revenue," Manoian noted—but the community programs offered at the new campus became a major draw as well.

"People who normally would avoid downtown are now coming into it," he said, "and downtown merchants are now specifically catering to student consumer needs. The same merchants who were complaining are now posting 'College ID' specials."

Manoian said the Lowell Group, a regional economic development entity, completed an impact study on student and faculty spending. They found that each person at the new college campus spent an average of \$1,000 per academic year on food, magazines and clothing downtown. If Greenfield's experience

is similar, merchants can expect hundreds of thousands of dollars in new revenues.

"Besides the money, the community college has brought a new vitality to downtown, period," Manoian concluded. "In fact, when classes aren't in session now, it's immediately noticeable."

The work on the Foundation's downtown building has already begun. It is hoped that the necessary renovation work will be completed by late fall, with classes beginning there next February.

Handicapped and visitor parking for the new building will be immediately behind the rear entrance. All other parking will be in the town's unmetered lot behind Wilson's parking lot. Local architect Pierre Belhumeur has been retained to complete the design plans.

"This is the single most exciting time in the life of the college," Cohn said of the acquisition. "Buying this building downtown, returning GCC to the heart of this community, is what it's all about. There is no other greater resource this community has than this college. I still believe that giving somebody an education is the finest gift of all."

A new role for Charles Carter

Charles E. "Charlie" Carter is well-known to almost anyone who has spent time at Greenfield Community College. He will reach his 24th anniversary working for the college this July.

Carter came to GCC as the director of physical plant in 1970, but for the past 16 years he has served the college as dean of administration. Now, as executive director of the Greenfield Community College Foundation, he is taking on new responsibilities.

For one thing, Carter is supervising the renovations that are about to begin at the new downtown center, making sure that they come in on time and under budget. He is also working closely with Fred Rees, who is directing the college's new capital campaign (*see page 8*), to see that the campaign runs smoothly.

Since the main purpose of the campaign is to recoup the purchase price, renovate and equip the new building, the two responsibilities overlap. Carter is also working closely with facilities consultant Hank



Henry to negotiate the lease package between the college, the Foundation and the state.

When the campaign is over and the building is ready for occupation by the college's academic programs, Carter will continue to work for the Foundation and on special projects assigned by President Kay Sloan.

NOTES FROM THE SEMESTER

Cathleen LaHart Kinne, Patricia Stevenson appointed trustees

Governor William Weld has appointed Cathleen LaHart Kinne and Patricia A. Stevenson to the Board of Trustees of Greenfield Community College. Kinne will serve a five-year term, and Stevenson will complete the five-year term begun by Diane Peterson, who resigned last fall, ending in 1997. Governor Weld also reappointed Allen Davis to a second five-year term on the board, and student John "Rick" Mulcahy was re-elected to serve a second one-year term ending in June 1995.

Allen Davis, of Greenfield, is the director of development at Cooley Dickinson Hospital in Northampton. He was previously executive director of 20/20 Vision in Amherst, a national citizens lobbying group, and executive director of the United Way of Franklin County. He has a bachelor's degree and a doctorate of education degree from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

Davis chairs the board of trustees' curriculum and planning committee, and will begin his third one-year term as the board's secretary.

Cathleen LaHart Kinne, currently an attorney living in North Andover, received her law degree from Suffolk University. She is a graduate of Smith College.

"As a native of western Massachusetts, I have developed strong ties

to the area," Kinne said about her appointment. "Serving on the Board of Trustees of Greenfield Community College will enable me to fulfill my commitment to public service and to focus my efforts on ensuring the quality of educational opportunities available to western Massachusetts residents."

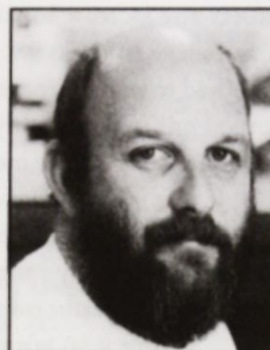
John "Rick" Mulcahy is a data processing major. A graduate of Holyoke High School, he enrolled at GCC in the spring of

1992. He spent three years in a military intelligence unit in Berlin, Germany, in the 1970s, and has seven years experience in the HVAC and R industry. He works as a tutor in the college's academic computer lab, and intends to transfer to a baccalaureate degree-awarding institution in September 1995. He lives in Conway with his wife of 12 years, Mary Brown, and their children Shawn, age seven, and Scott, age six.

Patricia Stevenson, of Greenfield, graduated from GCC in 1992 with an associate of arts degree in the liberal arts. As a student, she was a charter member of the college's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the national honor society, and worked as a tutor in the Learning Assistance Center. She is currently enrolled in the Ada Comstock Scholars program at Smith College, working toward her bachelor of arts degree.

She was employed by the college as secretary to then-dean of the faculty Toby Sutton from 1980 to 1985, and received the college's Classified Service Award in 1983. Prior to GCC, she worked for many years as an office supervisor for the Massachusetts Department of Public Health's Food and Drug division in Amherst, and as an accounting clerk for the Northampton superintendent of schools. She served as vice president of the Friends of Greenfield Public Library from 1990 to 1992, and was co-founder and treasurer of the Greater Franklin County National Organization for Women from 1989 to 1991.

"My desire to be a trustee emerged from my need to give something back to Greenfield Community College," she says. "I am reminded of a comment that Helen Keller once made: 'The world is moved along, not only by the mighty shoves of its heroes, but also by the aggregate of the tiny pushes of each honest worker.' In accepting my nomination, I am committing myself to be a part of a team of honest workers, both past and present, who with many tiny pushes conceived an academic institution that continues to nurture and enlighten our community."



"Striving and Driving for GCC Scholars" set for May 25

The Greenfield Community College Foundation will hold its fourth annual benefit golf tournament on Wednesday, May 25. The tournament, "Striving and Driving for GCC Scholars," will raise money for the Foundation's scholarship fund. The deadline to enter is May 18. Last year's tournament raised nearly \$8,000 for scholarship aid to more than 122 students.

Players will compete in scramble teams of four with divisions for women, men and mixed. They may form their own teams or be assigned by the tournament committee. The tournament will take place at Crumpin-Fox Golf Club in Bernardston with a shotgun start at 11 a.m., rain or shine. There will be a dinner that evening at Andiamo Ristorante!, where prizes and awards will be presented.

The entry fee of \$100 per person includes greens fee, cart, range balls, dinner and prizes. The Foundation is also looking for individuals and businesses to sponsor carts, tees or greens for contributions ranging from \$30 to \$100. Guests may attend the awards dinner for \$20. For further information or to receive an entry form, call Jean Simmons at (413) 774-3131, extension 315.

New videotape explores region's geological history

A new videotape by geology professor **Richard Little** premiered at the college and at the A2Z Science Store in Northampton during March. The program highlights the geological history of our region. Little uses computer animation to show drifting continents, dinosaurs, faulting and glacial land forms.

Visits to the Pratt Museum at Amherst College and Dinosaur State Park in Connecticut illustrate the formation and interpretation of dinosaur footprints. Scenic video sequences highlight the formation of Lake Hitchcock, flooding in the Pioneer Valley, and many other topics.



The program features an original soundtrack by GCC student Greg Seaman and narration by Amy Valinski of radio station WHAI-AM in Greenfield. The program is sponsored by the college's Pioneer Valley Institute. Sales of the video will support the institute's multidisciplinary education programs.

Retail price is \$30 for individuals, \$50 for businesses/organizations.

Ford Foundation grant supports women's studies

A number of new courses are being created and several cultural events, including a one-woman play about Eleanor Roosevelt, were held on campus this spring as part of a \$10,000 grant from the Ford Foundation.

The grant is one of 14 awarded by the Ford Foundation to community colleges across the country to mainstream scholarship on women into the curriculum. In addition to the April presentation of "Meet Eleanor Roosevelt, Wife, Mother and First Lady," the grant is being used to provide stipends to faculty and to support a series of brown-bag lunch discussions on inclusive curricula and teaching which were held during the spring semester.

The primary purpose of the grant, says project coordinator **Anne Wiley**, is to support the development of a liberal arts option in women's studies and to support the revision of introductory courses to reflect "women's studies scholarship and inclusive pedagogy."

Seven faculty and staff have been awarded stipends to develop new courses in women's studies. The inclusive curriculum committee selected the following courses with these working titles as recipients for stipends:

- Early childhood education professor **Kate Finnegan**, "Women as Educators". The course will explore the historical contributions of women in education and examine the new research on unfair treatment of women and girls in our schools and classrooms.

- **Joanne Hayes**, chair of the English program, "Women in American History". The course will survey women's roles in American history. It will emphasize the social history of unknown as well as famous women of diverse ethnic and class backgrounds who have helped shape the life and culture of America from the Colonial period to the present.

- Adjunct professors of human ecology **Diane DePuydt** and **Heather Peck**, "Women

and the Earth". The course will focus on the roles of women in relation to the environment; the links between populations, poverty and the education and status of women; the principles of ecofeminism; and the impact of environmental degradation on women and children.

- **Lori Wynter**, adjunct professor of psychology, "Psychology of Oppression". The course will examine the many forms of oppression that men and women live with in their daily lives, including racism, classism, heterosexism, ablism and sexism, from a socio-psychological perspective.

"The Math Connection" produces Spanish edition

The Math Connection (La Conexión Matemática), a public access bilingual math television program geared to students in grades 4-8, is being cablecast for the first time in Holyoke. Episodes of the half-hour show were aired in February and March on Channel 32. A third program will air May 17.

The program is designed to stimulate students' interest in and exposure to mathematics by involving both students and teachers from area schools in the production of the show. *The Math Connection* also gives parents an opportunity to learn about their children's math and science program. The program includes "Challenge Corner," where

- Chemistry professor **Ana Gaillat**, "Women in Science: Past, Present and Future". The course will examine the male-centered approach to the sciences and the underlying assumptions of positivist thought which have shaped the sciences in Western societies.

- Counselor **Sandra Sobeck**, "Enhancement of Women's Self-Esteem and Identity". The focus of the course will be to build skills and examine sources of self-esteem and identity in women students returning to school after an absence.

students present problem-solving projects, and "Stepping Out," which shows how math is used by people in the community.

The Math Connection airs on public access stations in Amherst, Greenfield, Northampton, Northfield, Shelburne-Buckland and Turners Falls. Now in its fifth season, the program is sponsored by GCC and is funded by a Dwight D. Eisenhower Grant through the Massachusetts Higher Education Coordinating Council. This project was a joint collaboration between *The Math Connection*, the Massachusetts PALMS Project, the QUASAR Math Project at Mount Holyoke College, and the Holyoke public schools.

Project TEME converts from space to sea

An \$83,000 grant from the National Science Foundation is being used to retrofit Project TEME's nationally-acclaimed space shuttle simulation program into a deep submergence vehicle that will be used to simulate exploration of the ocean floor. The first launch of the new "vehicle" was held in late April. Half a dozen student crew members inside the vehicle, supported by more than 50 program students and graduates creating and controlling the high-tech simulation from the "surface," embarked on a 72-hour mission thousands of feet under water.

While some things will change in its new underwater venue, many more will stay the same for Project TEME (Totally Enclosed Modular Environment), according to human ecology professors **Dan LaRose** and **Greg Vouros**, who started the program in 1979. Concerned by national trends at the time that indicated a lack of science and computer skills as well as weak interpersonal and problem-solving abilities, Dan and Greg created Project

TEME. The program has received numerous awards and recognition, including the 1984 Governor's Excellence in Education award.

The new NSF grant has led to a full conversion of the curriculum and simulated environment from space to sea and has involved the efforts of numerous people, ranging from geology professor Richard Little to Dr. Carl Worser at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute on Cape Cod. New computer software had to be developed, and the medical technology part of the curriculum, for example, had to be changed to prepare students to deal with the human body and mind as it responds to the challenges of a deep sea environment, instead of the low-gravity sickness associated with space travel.

The new curriculum is based on research being performed by oceanographers around the world. Less than one percent of the ocean has actually been explored, says LaRose. Scientists (and students) are eager to know more about their world.

Taking another look

Alumna Flora Cohen is forging ordinary materials, and her past, into art

Flora Cohen's horizons just keep expanding, even as she explores her roots. After arriving in the United States eight years ago, she went from being unable to speak any English to helping other Greenfield Community College students in a developmental English course and tutoring others in Spanish in just over a year. Meanwhile, her own academic interests were evolving from math and science to art and filmmaking. As an artist, she draws on her Colombian past. She met two people at GCC who are now among her closest friends and biggest supporters, and both turned out to have spent time living near her home in Colombia when she was a child.

Cohen received her associate's degree from GCC and then transferred to New York University, earning her bachelor's degree there. Now she has her own business, making whimsical yet utilitarian sculpture using the tools and materials of a plumber.

She eventually hopes to make feature-length films, and is working on a screenplay that puts her past in an altogether new context. Looking at her list of accomplishments to date, who can doubt that she will succeed?

Cohen, 30, came to the United States from Cali, Colombia, in 1986 to study at the International Language Institute in Northampton. She spoke no English at the time. But after about four months she felt the institute did not have much to offer and decided to apply to GCC.

She enrolled in the 1987 spring semester. Her advisor was Mary Ellen Kelly, coordinator of the college's writing program. Cohen found Kelly to be "very supportive. She was always telling me that there was no doubt that I was doing great and could do anything I wanted. She had great faith in me." After just one semester, Kelly asked Cohen if she wanted to become a tutor to other students in developmental English and in Spanish, and she did.

Cohen's plan at first was to study the sciences and agriculture. Kelly suggested she



She took her first art class at GCC "for fun," but it turned out to be her hardest course "because it meant so much to me."

add "a fun course" to the difficult math and science she was taking, and Cohen chose a drawing class taught by Budge Hyde. "My father was an architect in Colombia after graduating from the University of California at Berkeley," she says, "and he was also a painter. I always had to do things with my hands while I was growing up, so the drawing course seemed like a good choice.

"I thought it would be a fun class to

balance the math and science but it turned out to be the hardest because it meant so much to me."

The class was exceptional in another way. In it, she met a man with whom she now lives in Northampton. Amazingly, he turned out to have met Cohen when she was growing up in Colombia, though neither of them realized it at first.

She describes meeting her future partner, Will Bundy: "On the first day of classes he didn't bring any supplies, so I shared my eraser. At the end of the semester he tried to give me back my eraser, and added, 'you know, I was in Colombia 12 years ago and I visited the home of your mother'!

"He had lived in Colombia for a year when he was 21 and I was 14, and as he spoke, I remembered meeting him when my mother had some friends over for pie!"

Cohen met Carlos Andrade, now a well-known painter in Colombia, in an English course. "We took a writing class together, and when I realized he was Colombian, we began talking. It turned out that he, too, was originally from Cali—and he had even lived in the same building as me!" Andrade transferred from GCC to the Rhode Island School of Design, and from there returned to Colombia. His painting has been controversial, says Cohen. "He shows the ugliness of the world, particularly of popular religion, in a rather morbid way," she says, "rather than the beauty. He incorporates images of death, skulls, and cockroaches in his paintings of subjects like the 'saints' arriving in the New World, for example. Some hate him for it, and others love him for the courage he shows—and for his work."

Her interest in the arts established, Cohen took several photography and advanced English courses, the latter with Phyllis Nahman, and they hastened her transition from scientist to artist. "The teachers showed me that when writing or taking pictures, whatever comes out is valid and has value. It didn't matter if I liked the value of my work or not;

I had to define its value.

"Phyllis was great—such an encouraging person. I had a lot of doubts about what I could do. I had very low self-esteem when I arrived at GCC. Thank God they had a different idea of what people can do! I was given constant encouragement."

After this, Cohen decided she would study filmmaking to combine her love of visual art with writing. When she went to declare herself as a media major, she was counseled out of the idea by professor Tom Boisvert. "Tom convinced me that I would be better off fulfilling my liberal arts requirements, since GCC offered very few film courses anyway. That way, when I transferred I could concentrate on film."

She took his advice, and it worked: after completing her associate of arts degree in liberal arts at GCC, Cohen was accepted into New York University's nationally-known film school. Her arrival in New York was memorable—and intimidating. "NYU has no campus, really—its buildings just blend into the surrounding city. The college felt so impersonal, unlike GCC where everyone knew me by name. I sat in Washington Square that first day and cried for hours."

Eventually she adjusted to both the city and the university and came to love the opportunity to make films. She is especially proud of her thesis project at NYU: a 10-minute film that cost about \$2,500 to make. The film is about a scribe. "In Colombia there are letter writers, people who earn their living sitting under the palm trees with a typewriter typing out documents for people, anything from wills to love letters. In my film, the main character migrates to Brooklyn. Other immigrants come to him to write their love letters and he comes to realize he doesn't have love in his own life." But after experiencing a taste of love, she says, he decides he is happier loving through writing love letters for others.

Cohen won numerous honors at NYU, with her work chosen for presentation at several festivals, including the Florida Film Festival, the Big Muddy Film Festival, Eastman Kodak's "Movies on a Shoestring" Festival, the Tribeca Film Festival and one sponsored by the Film-making Guild of America. At NYU's own film festival, for which only about ten students' works were chosen for screening, Cohen received excellency awards in filmmaking, screenwriting and directing.

She graduated from NYU in 1991 and

spent the next few months living with Will Bundy in a Polish neighborhood in Brooklyn, teaching video and animation classes for the Children's Aid Society. "It was great—I really loved the neighborhood," she says. It was during this time that she began working with wire, experimenting, making small items like jewelry and baskets. Chris Bundy, a cousin of Will's and an acclaimed designer of steel furniture, occasionally stopped by to visit. He saw Cohen making baskets and bird cages with copper wire and said, "you need to know how to solder."

"He came and taught me how to 'sweat' copper," she says, "and since then I've soldered the hell out of everything! The plumbers who work in this building tell me I do a good job."

She found herself "seduced to the point of no return." She came to appreciate working with copper. "It's the only warm metal," she says. Two artists also influenced her to work with copper: architect Frank Lloyd Wright, who used the metal in some of his homes' decorative artifacts, and Alexander Calder, whose wire sculptures of cows, dancers and metal insects "can't help but make you smile," she says. "He has a very refreshing way of seeing things. He uses a lot of functional items, too, like jewelry and kitchen utensils."

Cohen, too, tends to turn ordinary, everyday items into art to appreciate the beauty that has gone into the design of some very practical items. "I want an industrial feeling in my work," she says, showing the small springs that she uses in her bracelets, and an air chamber, a beaker-shaped plumber's supply that she has inverted in a sculpture as a vase for flowers. "Isn't that beautiful?" she asks, holding it up to the light. "I enjoy putting things in a context one doesn't often think of."

Eventually she tired of life in New York City. "It started wearing on me," she says. "The spaces were getting small, we got robbed, and I wanted to start a business of my own." So she moved back to Northampton and began Copper Works, since renamed The Copper Shop. Cohen's studio is located in a former factory building on Pine Street in Florence. The space has become a haven for artists with its affordable rents and wide-open spaces. GCC art faculty Ron Kim and Lisa Beernsten are also among its tenants.

At The Copper Shop, Cohen's artwork, like the materials she uses, combines practicality and aesthetics. She makes a variety



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"I want an industrial feeling in my work," Cohen says.

of utilitarian sculpture, from small items like bracelets, picture frames and mirrors, to clotheslines and trellises that are six to ten feet tall. She laughs describing how the clothesline combines her interest in writing and working with her hands, for in it she inscribes a little poem:

*Sunshine
clothesline
dry my underwear
for I'm wearing my last clean pair.*

Cohen still hopes to write and produce feature-length films. She is now working on a screenplay for a "fictionalized autobiography" set in a town "forgotten in the 13th century. The inhabitants find a Nike shoe on the shore from another culture, another time, and have to deal with it."

She also sees herself teaching eventually. "I do see myself at some point in my life teaching, and when I do that I think of GCC."

Anyone interested in learning more about Flora Cohen's work can contact her at The Copper Shop, 221 Pine Street, Florence, MA 01060; telephone (413) 585-0983.

Capital campaign begins to fund new building, academic equipment

The Greenfield Community College Foundation has already received \$235,000 in cash pledges and gifts toward its 1994 Capital Campaign—and the drive hasn't even begun yet. Foundation President Robert Cohn said that by mid-April, gifts from the Foundation's board of directors, college trustees, members of the college administration and loyal community members had already approached a quarter of a million dollars, and the official campaign kick-off is not scheduled to be announced until late May.

The anticipated campaign goal will be in the vicinity of \$1,000,000, Cohn said, \$577,000 of which is targeted to retire the mortgage on the new property at 270 Main Street in Greenfield. Approximately \$450,000 or more is being sought to renovate and equip the new site, including the creation of a new computer lab.

Fred H. Rees of Fred H. Rees Associates in Ashfield, a development/management consulting firm, has been retained as campaign director. Deborah Parker of Parker Communication in Greenfield will handle public relations for the campaign and Julia White of Charlemont has been hired to handle data management.

Rees spoke at length with more than 100 potential givers during a feasibility study on the proposed campaign conducted earlier this winter and spring. Rees said that the study results were "extremely favorable." He noted that, almost across the board, individuals interviewed had heart-warming tales to share about the impact GCC and its faculty and staff have had upon the community.

Several alumni/ae have already sent in pledges without being asked, he continued, "and the letters that came with them are really touching and indicative of the sense of ownership the people in this area have about this school. Some said that they have never given to any other school, even private colleges which they have attended, but GCC was there when they needed help. Now they want to help out in return."

The letters come as no surprise to Jean Cummings, past president of the Foundation, and GCC Trustee Channing L. Bete, Jr., who have agreed to serve as campaign leaders for the drive, which is expected to culminate in September.

Cummings, who has been a member of the Foundation for 20 years and served as its president from 1981-83, was also a part-time faculty member in the early years of the college and started the Foundation's first endowment fund with one of her paychecks.

She still recalls the day she attended an elementary school parent-teacher meeting and heard a gifted educator named Lewis Turner first describe the concept of a "junior" or "community" college, says Cummings. She knew right then and there that Greenfield needed one. Three years later, GCC was born—with Turner as its first president.

Cummings, known to most Greenfield residents in at least one of her capacities, has served in leadership roles on the Greenfield school committee, the town council, the Franklin Medical Center Board of Organized Work and the United Way of Franklin County, to name just a few. In 1982, she was given the Eminent Service Award by the GCC Foundation and in 1986 she was presented with the GCC President's Community Service Award. In 1991, Cummings was selected as the



Dennis Koonz

Channing L. Bete, Jr., and Jean Cummings are co-chairing the fundraising drive.

Greenfield Recorder's Citizen of the Year.

Bete, another prominent Greenfield citizen, is currently serving his second five-year term as a Governor-appointed member of the GCC Board of Trustees. He has a lengthy record of public service, including stints on the Greenfield school committee, town council, Greenfield Area Development Corporation, United Way and more. Bete says he warmly accepted the invitation to serve as part of the campaign leadership, noting that his own daughter is among the many residents who have "GCC stories."

Jennifer Bete graduated in the top 10 percent of her class at a local private school but, due to an undiagnosed variety of dyslexia, performed poorly on her Scholastic Aptitude Tests. Based on that alone, none of the colleges she wanted to attend would accept her. GCC, which does not depend on SAT scores as part of its admission process, welcomed her and helped her prove what she could do. "Three years later, she graduated from Assumption College—as its valedictorian," Bete noted. "So when GCC asked me if I'd help them out on this one, the answer was easy."

Bete said that his daughter's story may sound unusual, "but if you ask around, you'll find that it's not—there are hundreds of stories just like it. Almost everyone who walks out of that place with a degree in their hands, and even many who don't, are walking stories." That's one of the reasons Bete said he's absolutely convinced the community will come forth and bring the campaign to a speedy and successful conclusion.

He is also convinced that it must. "If the community doesn't support the college, it will not be able to survive as we have come to know it. We've witnessed that. It receives less than half of its support from the state even now," he stressed.

"If you want to take a stab at calculating what the impact would be if we were to lose this one institution, ask just a handful of the people who have gone there and were given the chance to start over," he concluded. "Ask them what they think their 'new' lives are worth. I think you'd soon find that if the college hadn't been there, the resulting losses to this region, both in economic and personal terms, would have been devastating indeed."

New programs

Liberal arts options in international studies and dance will be offered for the first time in September, and the computer information systems program has been redesigned

Computer information systems

"If you want to play with computers on the job, this is the program for you!" says computer information systems program coordinator Bob Welsh, who also chairs the business cluster. The 64-credit associate of science degree program has been completely revamped for 1994-95. What was once a programming and mathematics-oriented program primarily for transfer to baccalaureate degree-awarding institutions will now be a more hands-on program aimed at area businesses.

The changes are designed to give students more information about computer hardware, how to determine their computing needs, what to buy, how to use basic software, some word processing and more extensive work with spreadsheets and data bases. Students will learn both DOS and Windows. Networking and telecommunications will be introduced and taught extensively for the first time.

Required courses will be:

- "Keyboarding for Information Processing";
- "Introduction to Business";
- "Introduction to Business Information

Systems";

"Microcomputer Software Tools" (I and II *);

"Programming Principles and Concepts";

* "Microcomputer Operating Systems";

* "Computer Networking and Telecommunications";

* "Database Programming and Procedures" (I and II);

"Basic Accounting" (I and II);

"Practical Applications of Management Accounting";

"Principles of Macroeconomics" or

"Principles of Microeconomics";

"English Composition" (I and II);

"Report Writing";

"Mathematical Problem Solving";

"Principles of Psychology" or "Principles of Sociology";

Liberal Arts electives (six credits);

Accounting/Business/Data Processing elective (three credits).

* new courses

International studies option

The new liberal arts option in international studies is designed to provide an introduction to the broad area of international studies, examining culture, history, literature and society from a global perspective. The 60-credit associate of arts degree program is coordinated by Associate Academic Dean Joan Ibish. Required courses are:

- "Introduction to Cultural Anthropology" (or "Principles of Macroeconomics");
- "English Composition I and II";
- "Survey of Latin American Literature";
- "Foreign Language" (six credits);
- "China and Japan: A Cultural History" or "Modern Pacific Asia" or "Introduction to Modern Africa";
- "Comparative Politics" or "International Politics";
- "Oral Communication: Public Speak-

ing" or "Small Group Discussion";

• One behavioral science course;

• Two math/science courses (eight credits);

• General electives (seven credits); and

• International studies electives (12 credits).

The international studies electives (if not already used to fulfill requirements) are:

"Art History" (I and II)

"African Dance" (A and B)

"Dance in Culture"

"China and Japan: A Cultural History"

"Modern Pacific Asia"

"Introduction to Modern Africa"

"Comparative Politics"

"International Politics"

"American Foreign Policy"

"Foreign Language"



Dennis Koonz

Dance option

The new dance option in liberal arts is a 62-credit associate of arts degree program that provides a broad range of liberal arts studies with an elective emphasis on dance. Coordinated by Associate Academic Dean Joan Ibish, the dance option requirements are:

- "Dance in Culture";
 - "Dance History";
 - "Choreography/Performance";
 - "English Composition" (I and II);
 - "Oral Communication" ("Public Speaking" or "Small Group Discussion");
 - Behavioral Science core (nine credits);
 - Humanities core (six credits);
 - Science core (eight credits);
 - Math core (three credits);
 - Liberal arts electives (nine credits);
 - Dance electives (nine credits).
- Dance electives are:
- "Introduction to Dance"
 - "Jazz Dance" (I and II)
 - "African Dance" (A and B)
 - "Ballet I" (A and B)
 - "Modern Dance I" (A and B)
 - "Tap Dance" (I and II)
 - "Dance Production Workshop" (one credit)

Finding the right chemistry

Professor Ana Gaillat teaches students to apply chemistry to everyday life

You are a technical consultant hired by the state Department of Public Works. Your job is to determine the best means of keeping roads clear of ice during the winter. Which melting agent is the most efficient, and why?

This is the type of problem first-year chemistry professor Ana Gaillat is apt to pose to her students. Her goal is to change the way chemistry is taught, by getting her students engaged in solving real problems. Equations and lectures are a means, she says, not an end.

"I want to reverse the traditional presentation order. Typically, you have a lecturer saying, 'today we are going to cover this ...' and they start with equations. I'd rather coax students into coming up with their own answers."

In the example of the icy roads, Gaillat has her students "work back from the problem. We know that something happens: a solid combined with a solid produces a liquid. Now let's justify it."

Gaillat's teaching style is in sharp contrast to her own learning. She is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, where she received her master of science degree in chemistry in 1992. She also holds a graduate degree from Buenos Aires University.

"You need to pass a series of exams in Argentina" to get into the university system, she says, "grades are not relevant." She describes the university system as "very rigid. There are lectures and a series of quizzes; it's over, that's it. After awhile, you start to question that system."

"Even as a grad student, there was an attitude of the holy professor walking into the temple. I'm trying to break that cycle."



Dennis Koorz

Without real problems to apply the formulas and theories to, Gaillat contends, people forget most of what they have learned. "The stuff people will remember is the stuff that relates to their own experiences."

Gaillat, who teaches introductory, general and organic chemistry, has been very active in her field during this first year in Greenfield. She made several presentations at the 1994 Winter Conference in Plasma Spectrochemistry held in San Diego in January, and she has several articles out for publication. She received a grant from the college's inclusive curriculum project to develop a course in the history of women in science that will be "more philosophy than science." She'll also attend the American Chemical Society's conference in Seattle this year.

She likes teaching in Greenfield.

"Even as a grad student," says Gaillat, "there was an attitude of the holy professor walking into the temple. I'm trying to break that cycle."

"GCC gives me more freedom to teach," she says, "and there's a student-oriented focus here that is absent from a larger institution. I like that."

She'll continue to try to bring about what she calls the "domestication" of chemistry, dispelling the image of "chemists locked up in a lab" and refuting the idea that chemistry is simply "memorizing lots of things for a test." She wants to involve her entire class in a community project—like melting ice off the roads. "I think you should assume people already know the basics and that they have the experience to go on," she says.

There's a lot of confusion and misunderstanding about chemistry, Gaillat says. "What is chemistry and where can we find chemicals?" "What does the term 'organic' really mean? What does it mean to be chemical-free?"

These are the kinds of questions she wants her students to think about. It is by examining real-world problems that she hopes to teach them the answers.

New joint admission program with North Adams State takes effect in September

President Katherine Sloan of Greenfield Community College and Thomas Aceto of North Adams State College formalized a new joint admission agreement with a special signing ceremony at GCC on April 20. Effective September 1, the joint admission program will guarantee students admission to North Adams State upon successful completion of their academic requirements at GCC.

Under the agreement, students who matriculate in a transfer program at GCC may choose at the time of admission to jointly enroll at North Adams State under the stipulation they complete their associate's degree within five years with at least a 2.0 cumulative grade point average. Participating students will be able to fulfill requirements in certain North Adams State majors while attending classes at GCC.

"We are very excited to enter this joint admission agreement with North Adams State College," said President Sloan. "Students will be able to enroll in Greenfield Community College knowing that by taking and passing certain courses they can be guaranteed admission to North Adams State. It's the best of both worlds, allowing students to take advantages of each institution's special strengths."

The joint admission agreement is the second GCC has signed with a state college or university. A joint admission program between GCC and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst took effect in 1992.



Bill Johnson

GCC President Katherine Sloan and North Adams State President Thomas Aceto sign the new admission agreement on April 20.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Send us news of your professional and personal achievements for the Fall 1994 issue of GCC News.

Name: _____ Year(s) at GCC: _____

Street: _____ Daytime Phone: () _____ -- _____

Town: _____ Occupation: _____

What's New? _____

Send to: GCC News, Greenfield Community College, One College Drive, Greenfield, MA 01301

NEWS FROM OUR ALUMNAE AND ALUMNI

These alumnae and alumni received a certificate or an associate's degree from Greenfield Community College in the year shown after their names.

Deborah Baronas '75 has become an award-winning fabric designer. She and a colleague recently won a Tommy Award from the American Printed Fabrics Council for a rayon crepon print which they designed. Baronas works for Fashion Fabric of America in Los Angeles and teaches at a fashion school. Her fabric designs have appeared on the television programs *Roseanne*, *Home Improvement* and *In the Heat of the Night*.

Michael Wozniakewicz '77, an 11-year veteran of the Deerfield Police Department, has been named chief of police by the board of selectmen.

Keith Clark '83 has received an Iris Award for a video production titled, *Please Stand By III: Maximum Bob*. The Iris Award is a national award for excellence in locally produced television programming. Iris Award winners become permanent additions to the Museum of Television and Radio Video Catalog to ensure that the creativity of each winner will be preserved. This is the second Iris for Clark in his *Please Stand By* series. A graduate of the Newhouse School of Communication at Syracuse University, Clark is an assistant production manager at WGBY, Channel 57, in Springfield.

Susan Pelis '85 has had a variety of experiences on the road to becoming both a teacher and an entrepreneur. She earned her B.A. at Smith College where she did student teaching and worked in the financial aid office. Pelis and her friend Rick Baldwin then travelled around New England and New York selling jewelry. She was hired as an instructional assistant at Shutesbury Elementary School where she worked for two years.

Unable to even get an interview for a teaching position, Pelis began a personalized service business providing housesitting, cleaning and other indoor and outdoor home services. She also became a substitute teacher at Greenfield Center School. This led to a job as a half-time tutor there which then expanded into teaching.

Next year, Pelis will be lead teacher in

the "Prime Reds" (kindergarten and first grade) classroom. She is still running her own business and also continues to sell jewelry and clothing imported from around the world with Baldwin. She currently resides in Deerfield.

Dan Zimmerman '85 has become the assistant program director of Nonotuck Resource Association in Greenfield, which provides residential services for developmentally disabled adults.

Jacqueline Gabriel '86 has completed two years service in Costa Rica with the Peace Corps. She received a bachelor's degree in operations management from the University of Massachusetts and worked for Liberty Mutual in Weston prior to her experience in Central America. Gabriel is working on her teacher's certificate and hopes to pursue a career in elementary education.

Sharon Mazor '88 and **John Vasquez '89** have tied the knot. Mazor received her associate of arts degree from GCC with a major in computer information systems. She is employed at Franklin Medical Center. Vasquez is a Massachusetts state trooper. He also received his A.A. degree at GCC while majoring in criminal justice. They are living in Greenfield.

Heidi Ann Trudeau '89 has earned her bachelor of science degree in elementary education from Westfield State College. Trudeau also made the dean's list for the fall 1993 semester.

Karen Grove '90 has joined The Real Estate Connection in Florence. Grove will be handling residential home sales and apartment rentals. She lives in Northampton.

Dan Woodcock '90 has gone into practice as a chiropractor in Barre, VT. Wood-

cock graduated from Palmer College of Chiropractic last June.

Bill Martin '91 has produced a series of news and information programs for veterans called "Veticare" on Greenfield Community Television Channel 6. Martin is a Vietnam veteran and is currently working on a bachelor's degree in nursing at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. He was a charter member of the board of directors of the Vietnam Veterans of America in Washington, DC.

Jenifer Riben '91 received a Silver Award for Creative Excellence from the Dimensional Illustrators Award Show in New York City. Her work has been displayed at the Whitney Museum of American Art and the New York Art Directors Club. Riben's winning piece, a sculpture of a skeleton, was selected from more than 1200 entries.

Luther White '91 is working for the Massachusetts Department of Revenue in Northampton. He completed his bachelor of arts degree in political science at the University of Massachusetts and has applied to become a state trooper. White recently married his childhood sweetheart, who graduated from Smith College last June.

Alanda Cole '92 was joined in matrimony with Stephen Gamache. Cole is a senior research analyst for Phoenix Home Life Mutual Insurance Company in Enfield, CT. They live in Greenfield.

Dirk Mayhew '92 graduated with honors from GCC and transferred to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, where he is currently ranked first in the mechanical engineering program, first in the school of engineering and first in his class. He plans to complete his bachelor's degree in December.

—compiled by Bill Johnson



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